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ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

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November 21, 2013

The Honorable Cynthia Quarterman
Administrator
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave E Bldg 2
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Administrator Quarterman:

I write to express my continuing concern regarding the investigation of the ExxonMobil Pegasus Pipeline oil spill that occurred in Mayflower, Arkansas. I request that you provide my office with important information related to the investigation of the spill and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's (PHMSA) oversight of the Pipeline to ensure that proper steps are taken to avoid future accidents along the Pegasus Pipeline.

As you know, the recent Notice of Probable Violations (NOPV) issued by PHMSA on November 6, 2013, raised a number of serious questions about potential deficiencies in ExxonMobil's integrity management plan for the Pipeline and requires ExxonMobil to take action to address these issues. As you recall, PHMSA's Corrective Action Order that was issued immediately following the spill also required a number of actions be taken by ExxonMobil to ensure the safety of the Pipeline.

I remain opposed to restarting the Pipeline and have expressed the absolute need to relocate the over 13 mile section of the Pipeline along the Lake Maumelle Watershed to ensure the safety of the drinking water of more than 400,000 Arkansans. Further, I remain committed to ensuring the ongoing transparency of reports and documents related to the spill. Going forward with the investigation and enforcement of pipeline regulations, I request that PHMSA:

1. Ensure that all proper actions are taken by ExxonMobil to address every issue raised in both the Corrective Action Order and NOPV.
2. Provide my office with any response from ExxonMobil to the NOPV, as well as any submission by ExxonMobil related to the Remedial Work Plan identified in the Corrective Action Order and any plan to restart the Pipeline.

I appreciate PHMSA's continued investigation of this spill, and if you have any questions related to my requests, please contact Peter Comstock in my Washington, D.C. office at Peter.Comstock@mail.house.gov or (202) 226-8497. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Tim Griffin
Member of Congress